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ON THE COVER

Roger Orr: The outdoorsy type,
gutting a walleye.

Photographer: Neil Diamond
Cover Design: Richard Lawson



A friend of mine went to a fortune teller in Chinatown. I know this to be true because I was right there encouraging her to pay the twenty dollars to have her palms read.

Her palms say that she would be wise to start a business with her husband after she's thirty one, and she should stay away from fire and water. Her face also tells her that she will give birth to three children, that there is another man waiting in the wings and, if she can find the time, will travel far and wide.

My friend also claims that the sage told her she was a mouse. I told her there were no mice in Chinese astrology, but rats. "Rats are filthy and disgusting, I'm a mouse!" she protested. Yes, and I'm a kangaroo, I thought, refusing to argue.

This particular seer came with impressive credentials. By his tiny table outside a restaurant was a pinned up newspaper article quoting him. He had predicted, months before, that the Y2K bug would not wreak havoc on civilization. He had also advised, if I remember correctly, that 1999 was a good year to get married. And that's not all. When he was a teenager he went to his grandfather and asked to be taught the art. His grandfather replied that he had already read his palms when he was only six. His godfather was also a palm reader.

So you can see why I was impressed when he read my face. I managed to avoid paying him by asking a lot of questions and just being friendly. He pointed to the line across my forehead and said it was a "rope" and the three lines running down were "knives." "Not good," he said. He said it could be an accident or something equally bad. But the good news, always the good news, was that either my grandfather, father or my "nation"(!) would come

to my aid. He then went to my earlobes. "Good ears" he said fingering them. "Long life." He moved to my nostrils. "Your nose not good. Nostrils too big. Money comes in and goes out again." He looked very concerned when he saw the scar on my temple, a childhood accident. "Accident?" he asked, his face worried. Yes, an accident. "Very bad if you were born with it," he said.

I, of course, believe all that he told me. I believe that we can change our destinies and fates. Just as you can change your underwear. No, really, my friend asked the old man if it's possible for one to change one's future. He said yes, you can. "I have a lot of people who come back to me to thank me for saving their lives..."

I have never been to a fortune teller. I have never had my palms read, my tea leaves interpreted. I do read my horoscope daily, sometimes three times a day just to be sure. I did have tarot cards read in a bar years ago but I don't really remember what the woman said. It might have been something about a certain someone holding me back. And I almost called a television psychic once when I was very drunk and coming down at four in the morning and had nothing better to do. The thing that stopped me, besides the fact that I didn't have a phone or credit card, was that I just didn't want to know.

If you knew your future and you could change it and whatever the seer told you wouldn't happen. Which just defeats the primary purpose of going to the fortune teller.

I don't want to know what's coming for me. I would rather see the future when it gets here.

I kind of wish now that I had my palms read. Maybe I would know how this sentence...

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Nation

"A very low blow"



CREES PROTEST JUDGE CROTEAU'S REMOVAL

Indignation and anger characterized the mood in the Cree communities as word spread of a stunning reversal in the Mario Lord forestry court case filed by the Crees.

"It's an outright declaration of war. That pretty much says it all about how Canada and Quebec think about Aboriginal people," said one Cree who predicted "a hot summer" in James Bay. "It's a lot more than a court case now."

"It's a sad day for Quebec justice," said Bill Namagoose, executive director of the Grand Council of the Crees. "I feel embarrassed for all Quebecers. Their justice system has been tarnished."

Meanwhile, Cree officials are threatening to rip up the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, take "effective control" over Iiyuuschii and call in United Nations observers to monitor Quebec's legal system.

The moves and harsh words came in protest against a decision March 8 by Chief Justice Lyse Lemieux of Quebec Superior Court to replace the judge who had presided over the Mario Lord forestry lawsuit filed in 1998.

The judge, Jean-Jacques Croteau, had made an initial decision favouring the Crees Dec. 20. In a ruling on a side motion in the forestry case, he declared the Quebec government had "openly and continually violated" Cree rights under the James Bay Agreement. He gave Quebec six months to start changing its forestry laws to respect the agreement.

Lemieux replaced Croteau, ruling he might have prejudged the rest of the case in his Dec. 20 ruling. She appointed Justice Danielle Grenier, a former Quebec government lawyer, as the new judge.

At a press conference in Montreal, Grand Chief Ted Moses called Croteau's removal a "political decision" that is "without basis in law."

"Today, we are announcing that we are taking effective control over our land," said Moses. "We are reinstating the rights we always claimed we had."

"If we weren't in this conference room, we would have burned the (James Bay) agreement right here in front of you, but we don't want to burn down our office."

Cree chiefs flew down to Montreal for an emergency meeting after Lemieux's decision. They decided to withdraw from the forestry case until Croteau is reinstated, ask judges across Canada to speak out against a "travesty of justice" and launch a protest campaign against Quebec's forestry policy in the United States and Europe.

Cree officials immediately started a tour of the communities to find out if the court case should continue and what should be done next.

Moses wouldn't explain the implications of withdrawing from the James Bay Agreement, saying that will be worked out in consultations with Crees. He did suggest, however, that Crees might set up their own forestry regime to regulate logging and replace Quebec's laws.

He also warned that if Quebec and Ottawa retaliate by cutting off funds to the Crees, "we will want all the dams removed, all the airports removed, all the forestry companies to pick up and leave, everything back the way it was before."

Quebec government and forestry-industry officials refused to comment.

by Alex Roslin

Environmentalists, forestry experts and Crees are reacting with disbelief and concern to the decision to replace Justice Jean-Jacques Croteau as the judge presiding over the Cree forestry lawsuit.

"It's a very low blow to use tactics like that because you're not happy with a decision," said Henri Jacob, president of the Quebec Network of Ecological Groups, which has 80,000 members.

"It's not a very honourable tactic to attack a judge instead of the judgement. It gives people the message that even if they get a favourable decision, the government will remove the judge."

Croteau stunned government circles and the forestry industry with his Dec. 20 ruling that Quebec's entire forestry regime is illegal because it violates Cree rights.

Chief Justice Lyse Lemieux of Quebec Superior Court removed Croteau from the case on March 8. She said his Dec. 20 ruling shows he may have already made up his mind on the rest of the lawsuit. "It's an incredible decision," said a flabbergasted James O'Reilly, a lawyer for the Crees.

"She can't say that. She's hypothesizing what Croteau would have decided. It's an elementary error of law."

O'Reilly pointed out that Croteau was chosen as the judge only after the Quebec government and forestry companies rejected 37 other possible judges.

"It's a very bad signal," said Luc Bouthiller, a forestry professor at Laval University and former Quebec appointee to a Quebec-Cree environmental panel. "Maybe there is some legal reason for it. But in terms of symbolism, once again the ditch between Native and non-Native is a little bit deeper in Quebec. I'm a little scared about it."

One Cree echoed this concern, saying relations with non-Natives are deteriorating: "It's going to be very different now. We're always going to have to look behind us. We're always going to have to be ready."

Louise Accolas, spokeswoman for Natural Resources Minister Jacques Brassard, said she wouldn't be commenting: "No comment, my dear sir. The process is taking its course." **-BY ALEX ROSLIN**

LETTERS

The medicine wheel

I wanted to write to let you know how much I enjoyed reading the interview between William Nicholls and Elmer N. Ghostkeeper (vol. 7 No.6) and to congratulate you for exploring the issue of spirituality and health with your readers. As a reader, I would like to see more of these types of interviews in the Nation.

It was a great article as it addressed what is currently missing in the western framework of health care delivery. Personally, I identified with the author's teachings as I have been working as a nurse in my community and I have felt strongly that our current model of health care delivery was limited by only focusing on one or two aspects of an individual's health when we are not unidimensional beings. Furthermore, rarely do illnesses especially diabetes mellitus present themselves as such. The author viewed diabetes as a puzzle rather than a problem, (how refreshing!) which means it can be solved. However, a more holistic approach is needed. Although more recent theories and holistic health care models in western medicine are being presented in nursing courses, I noticed that throughout my studies that this holistic approach is being taught as a new concept in health care delivery when our elders have always known this instinctively. It is a fundamental part of our native culture and thus exists in our teachings. The medicine wheel is an example of a holistic model although I have never seen it in my upbringing, I realized that is reflected in the stories I have been told and in my surroundings. Therefore I also believe that in order to understand and utilize the medicine wheel, we need to go back and find the stories and understand them. Clearly, we cannot accomplish this without the help of our elders.

As a part of completing a baccalaureate degree in nursing sciences, I was required to complete a stage in community health nursing. Luckily, for a colleague and I, we were able to choose where we would go. I had heard of an aboriginal clinic called the Wabano Center for Aboriginal Health located in Vanier (part of Ottawa) and we requested to complete our clinical stage there. Hence the beginning of our enriching learning experience. Not only did we have the privilege of learning and actually developing wellness programs geared to the urban native population of Ottawa. We were also given a glimpse of how powerful our native teachings can be when used in combination with western practices. Perhaps partially due to my bicultural heritage, I have always believe that it is possible to merge the best for both worlds.

Jeannie Pelletier RN

P.S. I have not totally forgiven the people who had the bad taste and judgment to use in a non-nurse dressed up in our white uniform to portray a nurse in past issues of the nation especially when we had an increasingly larger number of genuine Cree registered nurses to choose from. In any other profession, this sort of representation would be unthinkable but it amazes me how the media continues to impersonate nurses in such a cheapening manner. The uniform has always symbolized the pride we take in our profession. I earned the privilege to wear the white uniform and cap for the first time at my graduation in 1995 and wore it with tremendous respect to the profession I have chosen to represent. I think it may be one of the reasons I became a nurse myself, recalling on my visits as a young girl to the hospital on Fort George Island, this early contact with these health professionals in white uniforms made a lasting impression on me. I resent to being used as a costume. In the meantime, I suggest you leave the ensemble to the real nurses. We deserve more respect in that.

A Big Thank You! To Rhonda Sherwood for five years of service.



Rhonda is leaving Beesum Communications to pursue other endeavors. Wishing her luck in all her future plans and goals.



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A Cree Kung Fu Student performing in Chisasibi

TENSIONS OVER USE OF CREE AT TROILUS

Some Mistissini residents are concerned about a decision by management of the Inmet Mining Corporation to restrict the use of the Cree language at its Troilus mine.

Crees make up a quarter of the 289 employees at the mine, located 175 kilometres north of Chibougamau.

The company says it's making the move for safety reasons. The restriction on Cree doesn't apply in the whole mine, but only to the use of radios in the mine pit, said Robert Baribeau, the company's Cree co-ordinator.

"It's not an official policy. It's a request," explained Baribeau. "The company asked (employees) for safety reasons to work in English as much as possible so everyone can understand."

He said the radio was being abused for non-work purposes. "Some employees were using the radios to chat. In an emergency, the foreman can't get on the radio. We asked them to limit their language to work topics. (The radios) are not telephones."

Crees are over half the employees in the pit.

Baribeau said Inmet is very Cree-positive and has tried to promote the Cree way of life: "The point of it was never to eliminate the Cree language." French employees are being asked the same thing - to speak English on the radio in the pit.

But one letter-writer to *The Nation* from Mistissini described the restriction on Cree as "atrocious."

"Is it not any person's right to use whatever language they wish to at their workplace? Sure, the mine

should be commended for its efforts to provide French classes to the English and Crees, and English classes to the French and Crees, but let us not forget the third most predominant language at this work site.

"Maybe, the French and English could be educated about our language. Why not? Instead of living in a world of paranoia, why not live in a world of euphoria?" asked the letter-writer, who wanted to remain anonymous.

The developments at Troilus also trouble Sam Etapp, a Mistissini band representative on an implementation committee that meets regularly with the Toronto-based mining company.

Etapp doesn't buy the company's safety argument: "I tend not to believe it."

He said it's more likely that non-Cree employees at the mine were complaining about the use of Cree.

"In the beginning, there was a lot of tension because of that, especially from French people. Over time, they accepted it. But now, it's news to me that they're going back to that," he said.

Etapp said that during the initial negotiations with Inmet, the community struggled to convince the company to allow the use of Cree at the work site.

There was concern not only for the Cree workers, but also for the local hunters and trappers who live near the site.

In the end, Inmet agreed to make the mine a trilingual workplace, Etapp said: "We wanted to make sure there was no discrimination."

by Alex Roslin

Mistissini Elder located

The body of Mistissini Elder François Mianscum was found on March 4 by searchers.

Mianscum, 68, had been missing since Feb. 26, when he left his camp at Perch River on his Tundra II in the early afternoon.

A massive search effort was undertaken, and Mianscum was finally located four or five kilometres away from where he was last seen, KM 308.

He was found beside his snowmobile, which had gotten stuck.

Many people from the community and beyond attended the funeral held on Tuesday, March 7, at the Pentecostal Church in Mistissini. We extend our heart-felt condolences to François Mianscum's family.

Chiefs might have to reveal salaries

First Nations might have to hand over more financial information to Indian Affairs, including salary levels of chiefs.

The new requirements are being studied in the wake of revelations that some Atlantic chiefs make more than the prime minister.

For example, Allison Bernard, chief of Nova Scotia's Eskasoni reserve, earned at least \$416,500 in just over a year.

The Acadia band in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, spent \$640,248 in 1999 to pay salaries of the chief, six band councillors and its staff. Those same salaries cost the band only \$173,760 in 1997.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien makes about \$166,000 a year, including expenses.

"It's not the provinces' nor the taxpayers' business," retorted one Nova Scotia chief when asked about the payments.

Indian Affairs is considering appointing an auditor general to monitor band finances, and requiring bands to submit wage levels as part of their annual audit.

Kung Fu tourney

The Chisasibi Kung Fu School went to Quebec City by road for the 20th Annual Quebec Yoseikan Karate Championships, held March 11.

They used the Cree Nation bus and were supported by some visitors and parents to

continued on page 9

In Memory of Francois Mianscum

Francois Mianscum
an Inspiration to All of Us

Francois Mianscum had all the qualities of a real Cree hunter: a man of wide capabilities, honest, independent-minded, true to his culture, and with a keen sense of humour – the sort of person I have always considered it a privilege to know. He will be long remembered for the response he gave in Mr. Justice Malouf's courtroom when he was asked to tell "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth." He got into a longish conversation with interpreter Ted Moses, who eventually addressed the judge: "He does not know whether he can tell the truth. He can only tell what he knows." That was a perfect description of the honesty which the Cree hunters brought into the courtroom, and it made an immense impression on many people across the continent.

When last I met Francois he was dealing in his customary half-humorous, half-serious way, with the bureaucracy of the Income Security Programme. He gave me the sense that he didn't suffer foolishness too gladly, and would almost rather not have had to answer all the questions.

He always seemed to me to be a man whose Cree knowledge and beliefs were unshakeable, the sort who could be relied upon at any time to come to the aid of any Cree demonstration of strong purpose. Only a month or two ago I met again his son Abraham, who was a little boy of five when we shot our film Cree Hunters of Mistassini in his grandfather Sam Blacksmith's hunting camp, who is now a Cree hunter in his thirties. Abraham is the designated heir to Sam's land, and is a worthy successor. I extend to him and to other members of Francois's family my sympathy in their loss. Although perhaps I shouldn't say this, one almost has the feeling that to die on a bed of spruce boughs, laid out for the purpose, as he did, out in the vast Cree lands, would be the way that a man like Francois would want to pass on.

— Boyce Richardson

We all remember Francois Mianscum as our respected elder. Born on the land, he stood up against the violation of Cree rights in the courts and he practiced our traditions on the land. Francois was a good friend. He had a wisdom, which he shared with his sense of humour. I asked Boyce Richardson who knew and loved Francois to write something in remembrance. He knew Francois from the days of the Cree fight for the recognition of our rights in the James Bay Court Case. I think that he expresses very well our sense of loss at his passing on. I send my deepest sympathy to Francois' family.

On behalf of the Grand Council and of the employees of the Council and Cree Regional Authority, I wish them peace and consolation in their loss.

— Grand Chief Ted Moses



GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (BEYON ASTORIE)
GRAND COUNCIL ALL CREES (BEYON ASTORIE)



**CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRI**

continued from page 7

cheer for them. About 30 people from Chisasibi went to the tournament.

The winners were:

White Sash

Tommy-Lee Ratt, 2nd place sparring

Yellow Sash

Robert Bobbish, 3rd place sparring

John Pachano, 2nd place sparring

George Pepabano, 4th place forms

George Pepabano, 3rd place sparring

Green Sash

Tineke Moistert-Harris, 3rd place forms

The other participants performed very well too. They were Mario Desgagné. Hugo Fireman, Robert Harris, Matthew Nineo'clock, Aaron Ratt, Jeremy, Harriette and Peter Ratt, George and Victoria Rednose, and Paul and Valentina Tapiatic.

The Chisasibi Kung Fu School association would like to thank everybody who helped them in order to make the event a real success, and congratulates all the winners and participants. Also a special thank you to the two drivers - Larry House and Norman Neacappo. -BY JEAN LAUZIER

Pope says sorry

Pope John Paul II has asked for forgiveness for many of the Roman Catholic Church's past sins, including its treatment of First Nations, Jews, women and heretics.

It is believed to be the first time in the church's history that one of its leaders asked for such a sweeping pardon.

The 79-year-old pontiff addressed an audience at St. Peter's Basilica on the Catholic Day of Forgiveness for the 2000 Holy Year. "We forgive and we ask for forgiveness," said the pope.

The address did not name groups or historical events, but prayers during the Mass were more specific. The pope spoke of seven categories of forgiveness, including those against Christian unity, Jews, respect for love, peace and cultures, the dignity of women and minorities, and against human rights.

But some are unconvinced. Native News, an Internet news service, ran a response from one Native American man who noted that the current pope has refused to overturn the 1493 Papal Bull giving "right of discovery" and land title to those who acquired new territories in the name of the church, especially in the Americas.



A river runs through it

When the weatherman calls for rain in Tsawataineuk, you don't just reach for your umbrella. The 150 people of this small British Columbia First Nation get in their homes, and they don't waste any time along the way.

Once or twice a year, after a good rain, the entire village is flooded by two-and-a-half to three feet of water.

For this reason, all the homes in Tsawataineuk are built on stilts.

"If it rains steady all day, the river would be coming up into the village by the evening," says Chief Willie Moon. "Sometimes it can be a matter of a few hours."

The flooding never used to be this bad. The problem has come about due to 100 years of clear-cut logging up the Kingcome River on which Tsawataineuk sits.

The trees that used to absorb rainwater are gone, and the river has become dangerous and unchained.

People, fuel and supplies are all brought in and out by small open boats negotiating the hazardous river.

Over 20 community members have drowned in the past 50 years.

Ten years ago, Tsawataineuk told the federal government it needs an access road to connect it to the coast seven kilometres down-river, so the community can have a safer alternative to traveling the wild river.

The government agreed to fund the road, but there was a hitch. The land between the community and the ocean is owned by private landowners.

All the landowners agreed to let the community build the road, except for one - an environmental group

called Nature Trust.

"(The road) would have serious impacts on the fish and wildlife in the estuary," says Ron Erickson, the group's executive vice-president.

Nature Trust owns 1,060 acres along the river, one of many chunks of land it has bought around the province - partly using government funds - to preserve for conservation purposes.

Erickson's advice to Tsawataineuk - move the village.

"They were quite upset when we suggested that because their ancestors have lived there for generations," he acknowledged.

The B.C. government, which manages the land on behalf of Nature Trust, is also refusing to grant a right-of-way for the road, which means Tsawataineuk is out of luck, even though it has never signed away any of its land in a treaty or land agreement.

So the community is going to court. It is putting the final touches on a lawsuit it plans to file at the B.C. Supreme Court which, according to the band's lawyer, Ardith Walkem, will seek a declaration that the current access to the community isn't safe, and that reserve lands have a right of safe access.

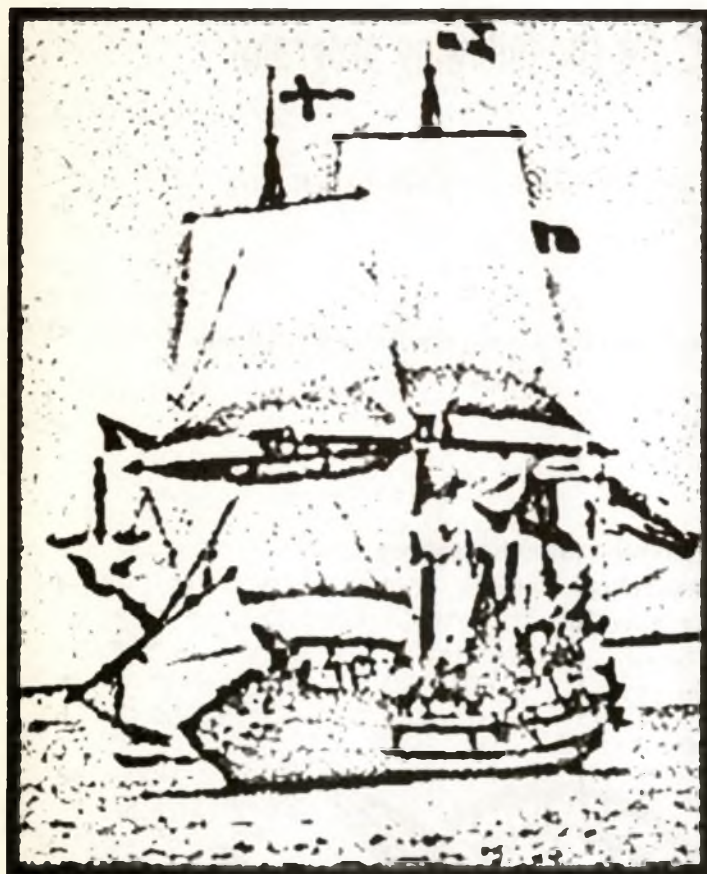
The court will be asked to order the defendants - Canada and B.C. - to provide safe access.

But the clock is ticking. The construction season ends in August, so if work on the road isn't done by then Tsawataineuk will have to test its luck for another year on the Kingcome River.

by Alex Roslin

Contact

Told by John Petagumskum Sr.
Interviewed by Thomas Shem



“He saw people on the ship but they couldn’t speak to each other because they didn’t understand each other’s languages.”

Long ago when the Cree people still hadn’t had contact with Europeans, the people were dressed in skins and furs for warmth. The only people on this land were the native people. They hunted using snares, including snaring caribou. They used bows and arrows as their hunting implements also. This was before they knew about guns and the people who supplied them.

One day, the people heard a loud noise coming from the sea and saw what seemed to be a small island. Seeing this strange thing, they had no fear. One elder of his people headed for what seemed to be an island in his canoe and saw people. This object he paddled towards was a ship with sails. He saw people on the ship but they couldn’t speak to each other because they didn’t understand each other’s languages.

The elder who headed for the ship was dressed in furs and skins. The people on the ship wanted the furs he was dressed in and was also shown clothing he’d wear in exchange. He was given a pair of pants, a coat and a hat. The elder took off his coat and his leggings and was very pleased with the new clothing given to him. He was also given a drink. The native was also shown a gun. The man on the ship taught the native how to prepare the gun - putting in the gunpowder and the shot. The white man aimed and fired the gun both near and far to show the native. The native was impressed and immediately knew that this tool would be very useful for hunting. The native was given many things to take back.

When his people saw the elder returning from the ship, he arrived wearing a wide brimmed hat. None of his people knew what the object was on his head. They thought that there was something stuck to his head and they didn’t know what to call the hat. They called it “Chichihkaawin” (something worn). The elder returned singing his native songs. His sons thought that the people on the ship must have done something to him - placing spells or curses on him. When he returned, he said, “Seeing the arriving visitors made me very content.”

The elder showed his people all the stuff he brought back and told them about the things they had. The people thought that the gun would be very helpful for hunting also. Everyone paddled to the ship the next time and the elder advised everyone to trade all their clothing for the articles the Europeans brought with them on the ship. They traded. The native people knew right away that these new tools they were given would help them a great deal, even though the tools and hunting implements they produced themselves were sufficient for their lifestyle. The traders on the ship said that they would be back the next summer. They must’ve used sign language to communicate with each other. The native people were given many useful things to use. This was how the native people began to use European tools and implements. This happened long ago. No one remembers this story first hand but has been passed down through the generations.

A while after, trading posts were built and the native people were able to live with more ease. When both nations began to interact with each other, they helped each other. The white people gave the natives useful tools that helped them in their lives. This is the story that I’ve heard. This happened long before our time. This is how the elders told the story long ago. The Cree people never lost contact with the white people there after. They lived their lives along side each other. It is true, even to this day.

The Cree School Board wishes to inform the
Cree communities of the deadline for submission of applications
for financial assistance for the following programs:

Off-reserve elementary, secondary and private secondary education for Cree beneficiary students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) reside on-reserve.

Deadline: April 30th, 2000

Off-reserve inter-city leagues of athletic and sports programs for Cree beneficiary students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) reside on-reserve.

Deadline: April 30th, 2000

Applications to be sent to:

Regional Student Services
Cree School Board
P.O. Box 309
Chisasibi, Quebec
J0M 1E0

Inter-community elite athletic and sports programs for Cree beneficiary students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) reside on-reserve.

Deadline: April 30th, 2000

Letter of intention and application to be sent to the School in the community where the team will be based.

For more information:

Please see the Student Affairs
Technician(s) in the schools.



Calling Card takes off!

Thanks to the
**"Call on your card
and fly off to Club Med"**
contest,

Hilal Sirhan from Chisasibi (on the right in the photo) has won a dream week for four at the Club Med of his choice. He'll be taking off for Club Med Punta Cana with (from left to right) Stacey Calvert, Marc Parenteau, Véronique Brodeur and children Matthieu Parenteau and Adam Sirhan.

As you will remember, with this contest every call placed with a **Calling Card** automatically gave the caller a chance to win a Club Med trip for four



The happy winners will now be able to trade in their snowsuits for swimsuits for a week.

Happy holiday to all!

Telebec

Kaa Waapishkwaanikwaau

Told by John Petagumskum Sr.
Interviewed by Thomas Shem



“This elder only used the bow and arrow when hunting. I had heard that he only used the bow and arrow to hunt polar bear and was able to bring down caribou also.”

I will talk about another elder who lived only from the land and wasn't really familiar with white man's implements. He probably obtained some metal from other Cree people to make a crooked knife and probably had an axe. He mentioned that it took him a long time to build a canoe. He said, "In March, I start on my canoe. I chop the wood I need and begin carving." In September when the young goslings take flight, their feet run on top of the water as they begin to fly. He had said, "This is when I finish my canoe." It sure took him a while to build a canoe.

He didn't use canvas to cover his canoe. He used bark stripped from a tree to make his canoe. This is what I've heard of that elder long ago. He obtained white man's tools only from trading with other Cree people. He probably acquired tobacco and tea also. This was how he started using the store bought things also.

He had also mentioned that he used the inner bark of willow to weave fishnets. There is a season when the bark is easily stripped from the willow. He must have used the inner willow bark for string also because it is very good for that purpose and stretches easily when pulled.

This elder only used the bow and arrow when hunting. I had heard that he only used the bow and arrow to hunt polar bear and was able to bring down caribou also. He was called Kaa Waapishkwaanikwaau. I'm not exactly sure of the meaning of his name but it seems that it means that polar bear skin was his cuffs on his coat - "Polar Bear Skin Cuffs." This is how his name is understood. This is the story about the old man named Kaa Waapishkwaanikwaau. I know there's more stories told of him.

C

ALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

CMHC and SSHRC launch call for submissions to innovative housing research partnership

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in partnership with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) will award two grants this year under the SSHRC's *Community-University Research Alliances (CURA)* pilot program.

CMHC will partner with the SSHRC to award one grant under each of two themes: **Aboriginal Housing in Canada**; and **Housing in Sustainable Communities**. Each grant will award up to \$325,000 per year for three years to community-university teams to undertake housing research, education and training, and information sharing.

The **SSHRC/CMHC CURAs in Housing** contribute to the Government of Canada's commitment to generate jobs and growth through a strong, knowledge-based economy and contribute to CMHC research priorities aimed at improving the living conditions of Aboriginal People and improving the quality of our housing and living environments.

The deadline for preliminary applications (letter of intent) is **April 10, 2000**. For more information on the **SSHRC/CMHC CURAs in Housing** or for application information, please contact:

CMHC: Brenda Baxter
(613) 748-2808
bbaxter@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

SSHRC: Peter Levesque
(613) 943-1145
peter.levesque@sshrc.ca

or visit the CMHC web site www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/cmhc.html

or SSHRC web site:

English - <http://www.sshrc.ca/english/programinfo/grantsguide/housing.html>

French - <http://www.sshrc.ca/francais/renseignements/guidesubventions/logement.html>



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada



HOME TO CANADIANS
Canada

SNGA 2000

By Ernest Webb
Photos by Neil Diamond



An Innu Elder stringing snowshoes

We all checked that we had the right credentials on us as we drove through the wet snow. Aaron, Neil, Will and I were on our way to the Olympic Stadium to check out the outdoors show dubbed Le Salon National du Grand Air held from the 15th to the 19th of this month. We checked in and followed the flow of the people going in. We bypassed the hot dog stands in hopes of landing some Buffalo Jerky like at past outdoors shows. The show started with Aboriginal businesses and organizations. The tourism arm of Ouje Bougoumou was there including Chisasibi's Mandow Agency. There were Arts and Crafts shops along with the Odanak Cheese Factory. Designer Tammy Beauvais with her beautiful vests and scarves was there, she said they are able to make wedding or graduating ensembles.

We met up with Gilles Dorais in his Tiipii with his log homes. There were artists, jam makers and carvers. I tried my luck at a jacket draw from the Keepers of the Eastern Door Mohawk Singers and Dancers. There were a couple of Tiipii's there, I heard a guy tell his wife to go into the one he just came out to "feel the serenity." The Montreal Friendship Centre was also present with information about the centre and some crafts from their crafts store. We met up with lots of friends and new acquaintances.

Then it opened up to the rest of the show that featured a trout pond for kids under 14 years old to "initiate" them to fishing, Baron Sports, a major outdoors store in Montreal was there. They had boats, canoes and various vehicles, the all terrain "Argo" caught my eye as well as hosts of other products that I'll get when I "grow up." There was even a live moose there. Alas there was no Jerky to be had, so we settled for potato chips on the way out.



More photos on page 19

Why Was Justice Croteau Removed from the Forestry Court Proceedings?

The forestry court action, filed in 1998 was proceeding before Justice Croteau of the Quebec Superior Court. In the fall of 1999, the forestry companies submitted their 5 and 25 year forestry plans for approval by Quebec. Since the issue of the present forestry regime and forestry planning process not respecting Cree rights was before Justice Croteau, the Grand Council filed a request for a safeguard order to stop the approval of the forestry plans.

On December 20th, 1999 Justice Croteau decided to reserve his conclusions on the specific Cree requests, but nevertheless ordered that Quebec change its legislation so as to make it conform to Cree rights. He also ordered, among other things, that the forestry plans be submitted for a review under the process for environmental and social impact assessment under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. Quebec and the companies decided to appeal this decision. The Court of Appeal of Quebec is to hear this appeal on April 17th, 2000. However, on January 24th, Canada, Québec and the forestry companies wrote to Justice Croteau to ask that he remove himself from the case. The Grand Council filed a motion for another Safeguard Order on January 26th, and filed new evidence to support this request.

Justice Croteau refused to resign from the case.

Canada, Quebec and the forestry companies then filed a motion with the Chief Justice of the Quebec Superior Court to have Judge Croteau removed from the Cree forestry proceedings. Briefly, they stated that when he decided upon the first safeguard order he decided elements of the main forestry case that were in dispute, without hearing all of the evidence that they wanted to put before him in support of their case. The Grand Council submitted its view to the Court that there was no cause on which to remove Justice Croteau as he had decided the case fairly, but that if he had not decided in accordance with the law, the higher court would reverse the decision. The Grand Council also argued that removing Judge Croteau would be seen by aboriginal peoples as bias in favour of the governments.

When Chief Justice Lemieux reviewed the case, she stated that the arguments of Canada, Quebec and the companies were not grounds for removing Justice Croteau. She dismissed any concern for bias in the main forestry case.

Chief Justice Lemieux then stated that there was however, a reasonable apprehension of bias as that Justice Croteau would decide the second Cree safeguard order in the same manner that he decided the first order, that is, in favour of the Crees. On this basis she removed him from the case on the second safeguard order and also from the main case. Though she was judging a request made by Canada, the Province of Quebec and the companies against a judge, she charged the court costs to the Crees. The Crees have been punished for defending Justice Croteau.

The removal of Justice Croteau has shaken our confidence in the Québec justice system. We wonder if Chief Justice Lemieux would have decided as she did if it was her people whose ancestral lands were being raped by unsustainable forest practices. We question why the government and the forestry companies are given a second chance to argue their case before another judge.



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GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EYYOU ASTCHEE)
GRAND CONSEIL DES CRIS (EYYOU ASTCHEE)



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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
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SNGA 2000



A carver making Lacrosse rackets



The Nation Team with Nakuset and Florent Volland



Ouje Bougoumou's tourism booth



Aaron with friend



Arnold Cheechoo interviewing one of the O.J. representatives

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I'm a Cree

The Cree Nation does get around. Not only in different parts of the world or in politics or business. Whenever people talk, Cree are on their tongue.

In the beginning, God CREEd the world. The Crees were there in the CREEdition when were CREEded. It must be the longest running nation in the world. No wonder we are blessed because we are with the CREEdator.

Like with all people, we enjoy CREEdure comforts. Why not - we are in the middle of all reCREEdation. Naturally we enjoy CREEdativity and all through the ages we have learned to be CREEdative to survive.

When a nation makes a deCREEd guess who's there in the end? Some people don't like to be dogmatic, but lets face it, our nation had a CREEd that we follow. That's what makes us strong and we inCREEd ease rather than deCREEd ease. We don't plan to come to a sCREEding halt at anytime.

We don't need any beauty CREEdam named after us, we are there in the CREEdam naturally. And what nation is really cool like ice CREEdam and as peace loving as the flowing CREEd.

Some people may want to exCREEd themselves when they take note of our popularity. Their exCREEdition may confirm our CREEdense to what we have been stating above. (I'm trying to be disCREEd.) By the way, thank you CREEdence Clearwater Revival (CCR) for picking the appropriate name for your band.

When you go down to Louisiana, cheek out the CREEdole food and people, it might just agree with you. You will be welcomed when you vacation in the island of CREEd. With a name like that they must be a friendly group. When you work, make sure that you look sharp with a CREEdase down your pants and shirt. That's the Cree look.

That's it for now. It might seem CREEdpy to see so much Cree in the English language. Allow me to sCREEdam "surprise!" I challenge you to come up with other CREEdative "CREEdsearch" on the name of our Nation. Send it to the NAtion for a sCREEd test.

Smiles, Johnny Dixon

CAJ AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to Alex Roslin who has been announced as a finalist in the Small Newspaper category (Circ. under 25,000) in the Canadian Association of Journalists Awards.

The winners will be announced

April 8, 2000

Good Luck!

ME

I keep my mask right with me
every where I go,
In case I need to wear it
So me doesn't show.

I'm so afraid to show you ME
afraid of what you'll do.
You might laugh at me or say mean things
or i might lose you.

I'd like to take my mask off
but i've had it on so long
maybe you won't like me.
I might say something wrong.

I want to take my mask off
to let you look at ME
I want you to try and understand and please, love what you see

So, if you'll be patient and close your eyes
I'll pull it off so slow
Please understand how much it hurts
to let the real me show.

Now my mask is taken off.
I feel naked, bare and so cold!
If you still love all that you see,
you're still my friend, pure as gold.

April Esau
Sec. 2 French

Bienvenue Welcome Wachiya

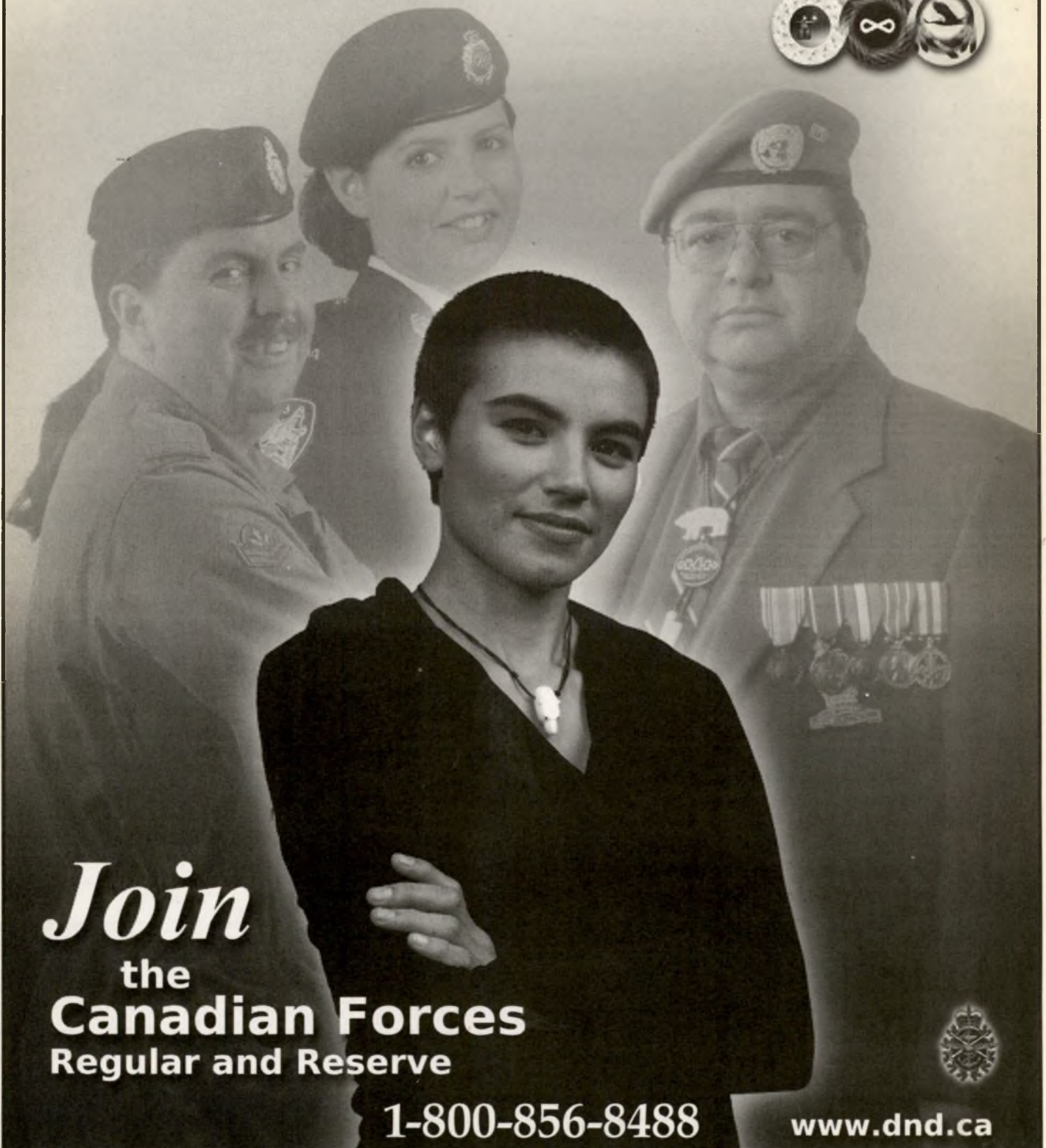


Ville de Malartic

to all the participants
in the hockey and
broomball tournament.
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Chisasibi Skating Club Shines (Again!)

On Jan. 22 and 23, 2000, the Rencontre Patinage Plus figure skating competition was held in Ville Marie Quebec for over 280 skaters from all over the Abitibi region. Thirty one skaters from the Chisasibi Skating Club participated in this competition and returned with forty nine medals.

The five youngest skaters (aged six and seven) from Chisasibi were entered in two categories, Team Elements and Team Interpretive. The other skaters each participated in three categories - Solo, Team Elements and Team Interpretive. In the Solo event each skater performed a minute or minute and a half program to music. Each routine included required elements. Skaters were marked by judges on their execution of these required elements and their artistic presentation. In the team element, each member of a team (maximum five skaters) was required to perform a specific skating skill. The marks from the judges by each member of the team were then totaled to determine the team winners. The team interpretive event was divided by age and each team of five skaters was required to make up and then perform a routine to a musical theme from Pipi Longstocking or Mulan or Disco. Teams were judged on their musicality, creativity, coverage of ice, team work, costumes and performance.

The Chisasibi skaters entered in twenty two events and won one or more medals in seventeen of these events. The Board of Directors of the Chisasibi Skating Club is busy planning our Northern Hightlights 2000, The Millennium Show which will be held at Job's Memorial Gardens on April 17 and 18, 2000. As this ice show will be the last for a year or two, Jozef Sabovcik, Elizabeth Manley and the pair team of Hartshorn and Sweilding have agreed to return as special guest skaters to help the Chisasibi Club celebrate the new millennium. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Congratulations to all of the following for a job well done.

Coach: Rhonda Spencer	Katlyn House Snowboy
Marcia-Jane Snowboy	Serena Ratt
Celina Chakapash	Stephanie Ratt
Gina Visitor	Kristina Sam
Diana Shecapio	George Cox
George Neacappo	Allison Snowboy
Edna Rose Matthew	Shauna Dowling
Geneva Matthew	Deborah Pashagumeskum
Jenny Snowboy	Sarah Herodier
Suzanne Cox	Stella Bearskin
Crystal Chewanish	Shawn House
Germaine Quachegan	Rachel Sam
Stephanie Sam	Marsha Kanatewat
Steven Tapiatic	Raphaelle House
Melanie Neacappo	Annie Chewanish
Juli Quachegan	Jessica Ratt

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Special Collector's Millennium Edition of The Nation

This special issue will highlight the people, events and news stories that have shaped the James Bay Cree. Reminisce about the good ole times, and learn some new things about them too. With archival photos, timelines of our history, new and old Nation articles, this edition is a must-have!

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Working Together

By Xavier Kataquapit

Every once in a while things come together in this world with perfect timing to answer a need. The first time I ever had anything to do with such a phenomena has to do with the presentation of Workforce 2000, a conference dedicated to improving employment opportunities for First Nation people.

Right across this country, there are dozens of situations in which First Nation communities are staking a claim to resource development in their traditional hunting, trapping and fishing lands. In many cases, there has been conflict between First Nation people and resource development companies in terms of developing traditional Native hunting, trapping and fishing lands. People are looking for solutions to these situations and there is a current struggle to try to find a means and a process that are beneficial to First Nation people and the resource development companies.

Last year, I learned about the development of Workforce 2000 from a friend of mine who had decided to make a difference. Rose Anna Campbell, executive director of Mamo-Wichi-Hetiwin Employment and Training in Timmins, has had the vision to develop a major conference to bring together First Nation leadership, the First Nation business community, First Nation entrepreneurs, First Nation job-seekers with non-Native leadership at the federal and provincial levels, mainstream private-sector resource development companies, and federal and government agencies. She believes that in producing a conference like Workforce 2000, much communication will occur between all these groups that will lead to more understanding, more opportunities for development and partnerships, with the final result leading to more employment for First Nation people.

I have watched Rose Anna and her staff members Clara Wheesk and Trina Maher spearhead the development of this conference with tenacity and the desire to do something positive to make the lives of First Nation people better. I have also watched the community rally around Rose Anna and her staff with support by major Native and non-Native organizations. I have seen her vision grow from an idea to reality by bringing people together.

The timing for this conference is perfect and it really does answer a need. I am happy and proud to see our people becoming involved in the development that affects our lands and our lives. For too long we have been left out of the loop and we have had to endure decades upon decades of unemployment and too few opportunities. It is time for us to come to the table, to be heard and to be dealt with fairly in the development of our lands. For many of us, especially in the north, the land is still a direct link to our survival. More so, the land is our mother from a traditional and cultural basis.

Workforce 2000 is an opportunity for First Nation people and non-Native people to develop a meaningful process and potential for partnerships and understanding that will benefit everyone. Support for the conference is wide spread with major contributions by FedNor and Industry Canada, Mamo-Wichi-Hetiwin Employment and Training, and the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. Support has also come from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Tembec, Northern Telephone Limited, Human Resources Development Canada, Nishnawbe-Aski Development Fund, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Aboriginal Business Canada and Falconbridge Limited.

First Nation leaders like Grand Chief Charles Fox of Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, Regional Chief Tom Bressette of Chiefs of Ontario, Art Dedam, director of social development for the Assembly of First Nations, and Shawn Batise, conference Master of Ceremonies and executive director of Wabun Tribal Council, will all be taking time from their busy schedules to attend Workforce 2000. Reg Belair, Member of Parliament, Gilles Bisson, Member of Provincial Parliament, and Mayor Vic Power of the City of Timmins have also expressed their support for this conference.

The conference set for April 12 and 13 in Timmins at Cedar Meadows Resort will also feature major private-sector corporate executives. Through presentations, panel discussions, workshops and booth displays, much should be accomplished in fostering solutions with employment opportunities. There are so many people who have helped Rose Anna and her committee in the development of Workforce 2000 and, although I can not mention them all here, I want to make sure to say Meegwetich. For more information on Workforce 2000 you can contact Trina Maher, conference coordinator, at 1-800-722-0484.

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The Hidden Threat

Richard Wagamese

I don't know if there's a word in any Native language for 'insidious' but there should be. Heading into a new century and a new millennium there are a host of words our nations term vital - sovereignty, self-government, integration to name a few - but none are so crucial to our common future as the word 'insidious.'

In its simplest form it means sneaky. Cunning is perhaps a better translation because when I refer to insidious, I refer to our greatest common enemy - alcohol. When our people raise a glass of cheer this New Year's Eve, my hope is that those glasses hold no furtive poisons, no liquid lie. Because I have seen enough, lived and lost enough to the trickster alcohol to recognize the hidden threat it poses to Native individuals, families, communities, nations, hopes and aspirations.

Sobriety should never be a consequence of alcohol. It should and must be, a self-governing choice we make based on our knowledge of the past and our hope for the future. I have never found it easy to make that choice and I have paid the price in the loss of valuable resources. Things like families, friends, employment, trust and freedom.

But I am not a soapbox preacher. Neither am I a recovered militant or born-again traditionalist espousing a mass return to the sweat lodge. I'm just a Native drunk tired of losses, new starts, broken promises, unfulfilled dreams and a new century that holds change if I'm willing to work towards it. In that, drunks or not, Native people everywhere share my story.

We've had five centuries of all that we're being dealt a fresh hand of time to work for change. No matter what the political agenda, no matter what the tribal dream, organizational plan or community initiative, the spirit that drives those mechanisms needs to come from sober people. We need and should demand sober leadership - at the negotiating table, the board room table and the kitchen table.

We speak so eloquently of working today for the benefit of seven future generations. We ballyoo the spirituality that enabled us to survive such drastic change. We chest thump and back slap over all that we've achieved despite those dire circumstances. And we pressure governments and our mainstream neighbours to recognize, affirm, define, entrench and accept as fact, rights and powers we never surrendered.

All of which is fine. As nations of people we deserve recognition for all we have accomplished. As sovereign entities we're entitled to the benefits of our struggles. As political groups we've earned the right to crow a little bit over the broad measure of our survival. But not at the expense of truth.

Cont'd on page 28

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March 24, 2000

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Fax # 450-661-7769

For more information,
you can contact
George E. Pachano or
Tina Petawabano or
Marie Elaine Pelletier
at the above number.

CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

We would like to congratulate to our friend Catherine Wash and her b/f Bradley Sam on the birth of their first baby girl Jocelynn on Feb.21 weighing 10 pounds and 15 oz. oh! catherine take good care of that little precious baby girl of yours.from your friends Roxanne,Bernadette and Rachel

Congratulations to my cousin Melyssa Snowboy and her boyfriend Larry Masto on the birth of their baby girl Crystal on December 23, 1999. I can't wait to see her. Take good care of your little girl. I miss you. Bye. Love always, Lucy Snowboy.

I would like to congratulate Delores Frank and Andrew Jonah on their new baby boy Andy Robert James. Born on February 16, 2000. Weighing 9 lbs., 12 oz. Take good care of your little one and each other. From a friend (CH) Waskaganish.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to supermom, Louisa Diamond Sr. on the 29th of March,(I think.) Mom, send me money! Neil.

I would like to say Happy Belated Birthday to my auntie Pamela House on March 23rd,and I would like to send a Happy Birthday to April George on April 1st and to my cousin Jesse House on april 3rd. I hope you guys enjoy it!!! Love you all!! =) Andrea

Happy 2nd birthday to our sweet baby girl Shequin Sheshamush, thank you for all your sunshine smiles that you share with us each day. Your smiles and laughter gives us the energy we need to make it through the day. A big happy birthday wish to you sweetie. Love Mom & Dad

Belated Birthday Greeting to our Sis. On february 29th.She is somewhere in the bush. Last we heard she was leaving

Waskaganish. I hope you enjoy your journey throught the heart of eeyou istchee. We're very proud of you.From your sisters Kerri,Lindsay & Gina P.S Happy fourth Birthday :)

Two years ago on March 25, 1998, I gave birth to a set of twins. Faith (Princess) and Isaiah (Dude) Bearskin-Bosum. I love you guys with all my heart. Together forever. love, mommy. xoxoxoxo.



We would like to send a Birthday Wish to our brother RYLAN CHUM in Waswanipi, who celebrated on March 11th. Hugs n' Kisses from Your sister Rayannon and brother Keegan in Moose Factory. XOXOXOX

To Shirley Voyageur wishing you a Happy Birthday on March 23. With a great big hug and a kiss from us to you. Have fun! Love Freddy & Kathy

This birthday message goes out to my pony, who will be celebrating his birthday on April 6. Happy Birthday, honey, may you have a wonderful time. We love you. Enjoy your day, pony. Love: Moi, and the Girls **Birthday Greetings** to Jennaya Alassipi on Feb. 15 and to Isaac W. Longchap on Feb. 24 from cousin Alyssa.

Happy Belated Birthday to Alyssa Coonishish who turned 9 yrs old on Feb. 3. It seems

like only yesterday when you were just a baby and when I look at you now I cannot believe how fast you have grown. Once again Happy Birthday and many more to come. We love you from your parents; Mary & Rene.

Happy belated birthday to our f r i e n d Roxanne(rawgoush)Pelchat in Chisasibi on feb.7 th. did you had fun. are you more alcohlic than before we're just kiddin' dudette.friends always Wachu and Wingette

Happy Birthday to our daughter Precious Nyla Rose Sutherland in Timmins, who is turning the big 5! Love you babes Hugs and Kisses from

Mom and Dad

I would like to wish a very special birthday to my grandmother Maggie Neeposh on January 9, 2000. I want you to know that I am always thankful to have a grandmother like you. You have always been loving, caring and understanding. Always remember that I love you and I'll always cherish the special memories we had. Love always, Queenie (Mist)

Wishing a special boy named Sebastien Pelletier Wadden a wonderful 8th birthday on April 12, 2000. I also want to dedicate this excerpt from a song I adore. (Don't worry hazel, this is the closest I'll

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ever get to singing in public) "I'll have a never ending love for you, from now on, that's all I want to do. From the first time we met, I knew, that I would have a never ending love for you !!!" La La La etc...Your presence enhances my life daily, and makes me want to sing these songs. Much love, your mom, Jeannie.

Happy birthday to Steve on March 15, 2000. Baby, I'm sorry, sorry if I'm late. That don't matter, I love you still anyway. Love Heather.

Happy birthday to my mother and to our grandmother Elsie Duff on January 25, 2000. Thank you for your encouraging words and support and most of all thank you for your unconditional love. Once again have a happy birthday. With love and prayers, Christine, Perry, Wabinsoshkum and Sawe in Hull.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Bruce Whiskeychan. he's celebrating his 23rd birthday on March 31. Have a great birthday. PS don't party too much or don't party at all. Stay sober. From a friend, CH in Waskaganish.

Happy birthday to someone special on March 25, 2000. My daughter Abigail Mayah Petawaabno. I want to wish you all the joy and happiness and especially love on your birthday. Always remember that you are my sweet little angel and I love you with all my heart. Love always mommy Lorraine P.

We would like to wish a happy 10th birthday to our only brother Timothy Happyjack on February 27, 2000. Hope your birthday will be a special day for you. We love you! From your sisters, Sophia, Lauriane, Agnes, Celina.

Belated birthday greetings to Christopher Cheena who turned 22 on February 15, 2000. Also thank you for being there for

Tyrell. I am glad that you spend precious time with your son. Your son will never forget these times as he grows up. Hope all went well as you celebrated that joint called "Moose"! Your 'ol friend AWD in Chisasibi. (Sorry I'm late. I'm just slow as I age!)

A special birthday wish goes out to Savannah Jolly on February 21, 2000. Happy 8th birthday. Love always Gloria and Kerisha (Waswanipi)

Happy birthday to my mother and mother in law, Doris A. Bobbish on February 13, 2000, my sister and sister in law, Mary Sealhunter on March 6, My father and father in law, Daniel Sealhunetr on March 20, 2000 and my brother and brother in law, Elmer Bobbish on March 27, 2000. we wish you all the best and have fun on your birthdays. love always, Christina and Reggie Sealhunetr.

Happy 6th birthday to Cheslianne Saganash on January 31, 2000 in Waswanipi. Love always, Us. 67 Pine Street. xoxoxoxo.

This birthday wish goes out to our one and only daughter Teresa Mattawashish who turns 10 on March 1. You're the greatest. Enjoy your day. We love you so much and always. Mom and dad.

Happy birthday to my favorite aunt, Bella. On your march 20th birthday. Your loving nephew, Will.

Happy birthday to our sister Teresa Mattawashish on March 1. We hope you like your birthday cake. We hose it because it's the best, just like you're the best. Hope we can join your party again like always. We promise we won't get mad this time if we don't win any games. We love you. From your brothers Warren and Baby Ray.

This belated birthday wish goes out to Desiree Blacksmith

in Waswanipi. We wish you, Des, a very happy birthday. Sweet 16. Hope you did not party to much! (Just kidding) We wish you many happy birthdays. We love you and miss you. God bless and keep you. From Deseronto, Ont. Grace, Tanya, Darius, Andre, daisy Blacksmith.

Birthday wish to my loving caring and wonderful sister Charlotte k. Moar on March 15th, 2000. Yeah, sis remember the time I sent you a letter. I wanted to send it The Nation but I couldn't. Anyway, happy ? birthday. I didn't want to write the number (your age). I probably would embarrass you. Oh, I almost forgot my brother in law Rusty on March 2nd. Happy birthday to you both and many more. Love ya! From your sis and sister in law, Lori K in Hull.

Happy birthday to my pussy, Farrow. He will be fideen. Ricardo.

102-WEDDINGS

To our coach Nathalie Fisher and her husband to be Frank we would like to say congratulations right away on May. As were not going to be there. if u would pay our plane tickets we would have said it on your wedding day. from: your girls basketball team "Warriors"

103-ANNIVERSARIES

To my husband Floyd. In just a few days it will be our first anniversary. I know that it's been a struggle at times. When we didn't see things eye to eye. We always managed to make our way through., I just want you to know that you are my everything. Happy anniversary my love on March 26th. You are today, you are tomorrow. I love you. With much love, AEH.

105-OBITUARIES

In loving memory of Francois Mianscum well known as Blazeau. We the members of

Ouje-Bougoumou who assisted in the search of this well respected elder were honored to show our love and friendship to the family and friends of Mistissini Lake, he will always remain in our thoughts and n our hearts. To the family we express our deepest sympathy and may the Good Lord be with you always and Forever. From Hugo B., Sam B. Jr., Anvil B., Joshua B., Claude St. P., Arthur (Boss) B., Varley SB, Mark B, Willie B, Jossie SB, Kevin SB, Norman N, Allan RN, Bentley M, Dave M, Simeon D, Lawrence C, Clifford C, Brian C, Gordon SB, John W, Rusty B, Nellie W, Minnie W, Tray H and all the community members of Ouje Bougoumou.

200-FOR SALE

Tent for sale. 40 X 60 feet. Aluminum steel frame, no centre pole along with coverings (white tarps). Used only two summers, still in good condition. Price: \$23,800.00. First come and first served. For more information don't hesitate to call. Cree Nation of Eastmain C/O Ricky Gilpin or Roger Weapenicappo at 819-977-2262 or 2263. Message: 819-977-0211.

Rabbits for sale. If you are coming down to Val d'Or and would like to buy some rabbits please call to reserve the amount you would like at 819-757-3110. You may leave the message in English.

300-PERSONALS

Happy Easter greetings to our favorite guy in Chisasibi (Whapmagoostui Eeyou) Kyle Kawapit. We wish you good wishes on Easter. The time you have shared with us was very enjoyable especially hearing you talk and laugh. Although we only see you a few times a year we think of you all the time. We are very blessed to have a cute guy like you in the family. We are very thankful that you are apart of a very

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loving family in Chisasibi. From all your family in Whapmagoostui. Grandmas, Grandpas, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins p.s We miss you dearly. Are alcohol and drugs destroying your life? Do you want to help yourself? Maybe we can help. We are Alcoholics Anonymous. We meet in Mistissini on Saturday evenings, 8 p.m., in the basement of St. John's Anglican church.

To Mike L. Hi dad! I just wanted to let you know that I miss you very much and you are always on our minds. Hugs and kisses from Steven, Jeremy, Jamie and mom. We love you!

Dear Gap. Thank you for my new jeans. D.

We would like to take this space to say hi to our friend who is somewhere down south, Julianne Jolly. How are you doing City Girl? And when are you coming back home anyway? We miss you a lot and hope to see you soon. From your friend in Waskaganish. Geraldine Hester, Darlene Diamond, Valerie Stephen and Melinda Hester.

To John from Waswanipi. I would like to thank you for the time we spend on February 18, 2000. I will always remember that particular afternoon and of course the other times we managed to spend together, From your love.

I would like to take the time to say Happy Valentine's day to my friends Mary, Betsy, Cheryl and Gracie. Well happy Valentine's Day. From someone you know very very well. COXOXOXOXOXO.

Happy Valentine's Day to someone special in our lives. To a wonderful beautiful granny, Bessie Stephen in Waskaganish. There's a place in our hearts just for you. We know it too late to say happy Valentine's Day but it never too

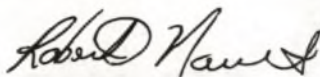
CONGRATULATIONS *winners* OF THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Congratulations on winning the first National Aboriginal Achievement Awards of a brand new millennium! These awards represent the highest honour Canada's Aboriginal community can bestow upon its achievers. They are also a reminder to all proud Canadians of the enormous fulfilment that comes from recognition at this level.

Each of you has earned the attention and respect of your peers by virtue of your ability to inspire others with your hard work and devotion to cause. While such individual accomplishments are personally rewarding, they also reflect greater collective improvements in Aboriginal communities across the country, where strength and independence of spirit continue to be the hallmarks of achievement.

I would like to offer my praise to the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation for establishing the tradition of bringing such contributions by First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada into the national spotlight. By acknowledging these impressive talents often, we cannot help but foster both creative and intellectual development in the younger generations to follow.

Again, congratulations!



The Honourable
Robert D. Nault, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development



Dr. Jo-Ann Archibald,
Education

A pioneer in the advancement of First Nations education.

Chief Simon Baker (Khot-La-Cha),
OC Heritage and Spirituality
Ambassador for the Squamish people and a national and international performer.

John Charles Bernard,
Business and Commerce
He turned a passion for computers into a multi-million-dollar enterprise.

Paul J. Birckel (Nashli),
Community Development
Spearheaded one of the first land claims settlements in the Yukon, created a template for future agreements in Canada.

Dr. Joseph Arthur Gosnell
(Sim-oogit HLEEK)
Lifetime Achievement
President of the Nisga'a Nation and Chief Negotiator for the Nisga'a people.

Fjola Hart-Wasekeesikaw, R.N. M.N.,
Health and Medicine
President of the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada.

Waneek Horn-Miller,
Youth Award
This champion swimmer will lead Canada into the 2000 Olympics in Sydney.

Leetia Ineak,
Media and Communications
A writer, director, and producer of children's television.

Edith Josie, CM, OC,
Heritage and Spirituality
This historian and Justice of the Peace writes for the Whitehorse Star's Here Are the News

The Honourable Judge Steven Point,
Law and Justice
Appointed to the bench to serve British Columbians.

Miles G. Richardson (KILSLI KAJI STING)
Environment
This B.C. Treaty Commissioner designated Gwaii Hanaas as Canada's first national park reserve.

Konrad Haskan Sioui,
Public Service
He invited the Innu to join the Quebec Assembly of First Nations.

Chief Roy Albert Whitney (Onespot),
Business and Commerce
Leader of the Tsuu T'ina Nation, Chairman, Treaty 7 Tribal Council, and Chair, National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

Tsa-qwa-supp (Art Thompson),
Arts and Culture
Master artist designed 1994 Commonwealth Games medals, carved totem poles for commissions in Canada and the U.S.

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ate to tell you we love you. Love always, your granddaughters Geraldine Hester, Darlene Diamond, Valerie Stephen and Melinda Hester.

We would like to say HI to a special girl in Mistissini, **CHERISH JOY MIANSCUM**. We miss you and hope to see you soon. Love coming from Auntie Shannon, Dawn, Rayannon and Keegan in Moose Factory.

600- LOVERS, SECRET ADMIRERS

Charlie Petawabano (mist) What's up? how's life? we love your sexy smile, we wish we could see you in C.N.I.T Tournament Are you going? well we are going !!! From Chicks in

YOU in Mistissini !! "Where have you been all my life?" I wanted to stare into those eyes all night. I swear I could fall in love over and over with you. When I was with you I started to believe in love again. I thought I would never fall head over heels until you. From Me in Wask.

This goes out to a special someone. He'll know it's for him after he sees this! This is "I'm sorry I couldn't spend Valentine's Day with you." My

love is the star who guides me through all, he has a heart of a gentle creature who cares for me, I'll never forget the first time I touched his lips with mine, he has a soft touch that makes me faint into his arms and has a never-ending love that is pure and exciting. Love always, S in Hull.

I would like to say same things to Tracy Longchap. Well, I'll make this short. I want you 2 know that I'm still thinking of U! a lot! I hope you read this you'll realize I still like you! From U know.

This goes out to Myles B/ned, I wish you were mine despite the miles between us. You are so fine, and so sexy. Looking forward to seeing you again! Signed...your future!

700-PENPALS

To all the people that enjoy receiving or sending e-mails. We are two native guys looking for e-mail penpals between the ages of 17 to 25. We promise to respond if we receive letters. Our goal is to make friends with you people who enjoy making friends through e-mails. Our e-mail addresses are Hab Boss @excitemail.com and T Bosum@excitemail.com. Hope

you write to us. Later.

Hi! To the youth of Cree Nation. I am looking for some penpals at any age females or males. I'd love to have penpals and to be friends with anyone around the James Bay area. E-mail me at: friendshipcampus@hotmail.com. I promise to reply A.S.A.P ! I enjoy meeting new people and making new friends.

It's Silly Girl here, I would like to receive some Hot-mail from anyone and anywhere! I will be looking forward to your email so write to me, thanks! Write @...Silly_angel69@hotmail.com!

Hey Cree Nation, I am 18M, seeking email pen pals, so if you're the kinda gal that likes to make friends through internet, well here's a chance. My email address is: Myers_91@excite.com. The only hint that I can give you is that I am from around Waswanipi, Ojibway and Mistissini. So if anyone between the age of 16-19 can email me, I promise to reply as soon as I can. from.....Later

In search for a single female correspondent (Pen Pal) between the age of 22-30 of any Nation. I'm 29, 5' 10",

Algonquin, single and in shape. Looking forward to hearing from you. Philip Haymond, 851, 3e Ouest, Amos Quebec, J9T 2T4.

Hi, I'm tired of getting nothing in my email. So I was hoping someone could maybe write to me. Who knows, maybe we'll meet someday if you're around the James Bay area after so many emails, cool eh? Anyway I hope to receive email next time I check (which is pretty often). And I will respond, k? So here's my address, Nii_eeyou@hotmail.com

Hello ladies! M/21/ single. Looking for a wife, Send pic, resume and applications to ndnsuperman_2000@yahoo.com (just kidding) I Would love to become email friends with gals (18-25yrs) reply soon, ndnsuperman.

Seeking email pen pals. Males or females, doesn't matter. I am a female. Just write to me at my email address Guess_me55@hotmail.com. Just tell me about yourself and I'll tell you about myself when I write back. I promised to respond soon! Hope you write to me!

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LES MINES INMET

Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division

Posting # 087: MINE GEOLOGIST (permanent) (Engineering/Geology)

The Troilus Division is presently searching for a MINE GEOLOGIST (Engineering/Geology) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord." The selected candidate will work on a 7/7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

Required qualifications:

Have a university degree in geology or equivalent. At least 3 years of pertinent experience in the field concerned. Good communication skills in french and english (spoken and written). Provide smooth transition to and from cross shift mine geologist. Work autonomously amongst team of engineers and surveyors. Have a good knowledge of GEMCOM software, of geo-statics and block modelling, and with disseminated low grade deposits.

Main responsibilities:

- Perform daily ore control tasks;
- Ensure strict sampling protocol are followed by sampling protocol are followed by sampleman and in laboratory;
- Design dig packets;
- Constant follow-up of mine excavation;
- Map pit structural geology and lithology;
- Complete assorted projects and studies on sampling, reconciliation, packet design, or reserves;
- Propose and run definition diamond drilling programs;
- Accomplish any other tasks required by the job.

Particularities and remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae,
not later than April 9, 2000 to:

**Human Resources Department
Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Québec)
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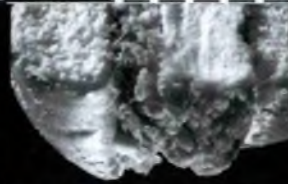
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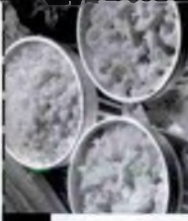


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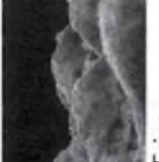
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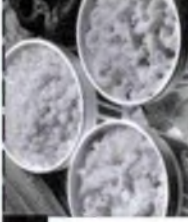


FOR FOUR FREE

Get one large salad FREE
with the purchase of a 10

piece meal or 15 piece meal.

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FOR TWO

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Includes: Individual Fries &

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FOR ONE FREE

Get a piece of Chicken FREE
with the purchase of
a 3 Piece Meal.

Includes: Individual Fries &

100 ml Salad

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FOR FOUR

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15 Piece Bucket

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